NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

Final

==========

1. Name of Property

==========

historic name Seaba's Filling Station

other names/site number Seaba Engine Rebuilding and Machine Shop

==========

2. Location

==========

street & number 8 miles west of Chandler on U.S. Hwy 66 not for publication N/A
city or town Chandler vicinity X
state Oklahoma code OK county Lincoln code 081
zip code 74834

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this __XX__ nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property __XX__ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide __X__ locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Blake Wade — December 19, 1994
Signature of certifying official — Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined eligible for the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined not eligible for the National Register
____ removed from the National Register

____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- _X_ private
- ___ public-local
- ___ public-State
- ___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- _X_ building(s)
- ___ district
- ___ site
- ___ structure
- ___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	3	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	3	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
COMMERCE/TRADE	specialty store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
COMMERCE/TRADE	specialty store

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Commercial Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT
walls BRICK
CONCRETE
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_XX_ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

____ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
COMMERCE

Period of Significance 1926-1944

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data
_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	681000	3950820	3			
2				4			

N/A See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Maryjo Meacham, Director, Design/Research Center; Brenda Peck, Historian
name/title Lisa Bradley & Susan Roth, Graduate Assistants: Oklahoma SHPO, ed.
University of Oklahoma,
organization College of Architecture date May 31, 1992

street & number 830 Van Vleet Oval telephone 405/325-2444

city or town Norman state OK zip code 73019

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Seaba Engine Rebuilding

street & number Rt. 1, Box 78X telephone

city or town Chandler state OK zip code 74834

SUMMARY

Seaba's Filling Station, constructed in 1921, is a single-story, irregular-shaped brick building. The original service bay is five-sided and covered with polychrome brick. The workshop, located to the rear of the service station, is constructed of a lower grade red brick. During the 1940s two small concrete block additions were added to the north and south sides of the building. Seaba's Filling Station is located on a curve along Route 66 eight miles west of Chandler, Oklahoma, in Lincoln County near the community of Warwick. Located directly south of the south addition is a small, noncontributing, clay tile building. East of this is a slightly larger, noncontributing, stone building with a wood shingle roof. To the southeast of the stone building is a noncontributing, tin outbuilding. The area surrounding the buildings is rural in character. Although the service bays have been infilled with glass and brick and there are two additions, the building continues to maintain a high degree of architectural integrity.

DESCRIPTION

Seaba's Filling Station, built in 1921, is a single-story, irregular-shaped brick building with a flat roof. The building's most prominent feature is the original, five-sided service bay, which is distinguished by its polychrome brick walls. Each bay is supported by a brick column. On each of the columns and above each of the bays are decorative rectangles of light brick. Above the decorative brick pattern is a continuous belt course of white brick. The roof line has a crenelated parapet, which is capped with white brick. The service bay was originally open and gas pumps were located directly inside the front-facing bay. Four of the openings have been infilled with large-scale, multi-paned, metal framed casement windows with brick below. The fifth opening, the original location of the gas pumps, has both metal casement windows and a solid metal door.

Directly behind the service bay is a red brick workshop with a gabled roof (now hidden behind the one-story addition to the southeast side of the original building.) The workshop and the service bays were constructed at the same time in 1921.

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

In the 1940s (exact year unknown) two concrete block additions were constructed on the north and south sides of the brick workshop. On the northwest side of the building is a concrete block addition with a stepped parapet roof and casement windows. It has two garage doors, a single entry door, and a casement window on the front elevation. Identical in design, a small concrete block addition is also located on the southeast side of the original Seaba's Filling Station. The front facade has a single door and one, metal, casement window.

Alterations to the original Seaba's Filling Station include the enclosure of the original open service bays. Although the bays have been filled in and the area beneath the canopy is used for additional work space, the original brick columns remain distinct. The small clay tile building and the stone building are unobtrusive and the larger metal building is on the far west end of the property. All three of these buildings are noncontributing. The prominence of the original building and its distinctive brick pattern remain intact. The resource retains integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, and association.

SUMMARY

Seaba's Filling Station, located between Chandler and Luther near the community of Warwick, is significant as an excellent example of an early service station. Later, the station evolved into a rural machine shop and has served in that capacity since the mid 1930s. It is important to Route 66 for its association with the thousands of travelers who depended on having gas, parts, and repair available at regular intervals along the highway. Contextually, Seaba's Filling Station relates to "Commerce on Route 66 in Oklahoma (1926-1944)" and to the property type of Filling Stations, Service Stations and Garages.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Seaba's Filling Station, built in 1921, is significant as an excellent example of an early service station along Route 66. By the late 1920s, gas stations had evolved into a hybrid of filling station and repair garage. Although technically a service station, historically the station has been referred to as "Seaba's Filling Station."[1] The typical early filling station/repair garage was a "neighborhood" station, however, Seaba's Filling Station was a "rural" service station built to serve the surrounding countryside and the thousands of travelers who whizzed by on Route 66. As gas revenues declined during the Great Depression, many stations depended on selling parts or repairing cars.

John Seaba began his business by pumping gas for persons driving by on Highway 7, designated Route 66 in 1926. When he opened his station, he also began to purchase Model T Fords and assembled them in the rear workshop. In 1934 he began rebuilding connecting rods. Engines constructed in the 1930s and earlier did not have copper inserted rod bearings. They had "poured bearings" made of a substance called babbit, a mixture of copper and lead, which did not hold up well to high-speed, sustained driving. During the 1930s Seaba built up his business as the traffic along Route 66 increased, and by the end of the decade he employed approximately 18 people. As late as 1985 the shop retained the original equipment and both old and new engines were still being rebuilt then.

Seaba's Filling Station is particularly significant as one of the few extant

[1]Ferrell, Sally, "Pioneer Auto Shop Still on 66," The Lincoln County (Oklahoma) News, September 26, 1985.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

examples of rural filling stations and machine shops. Located in a curve of Route 66 between Chandler and Luther, the building continues to maintain its historical integrity.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anders, Mary Ann. "A Survey of Route 66 through Oklahoma." Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, 1984.

Ferrell, Sally. "Pioneer Auto Shop Still on 66." The Lincoln County (Oklahoma) News. September 26, 1985.

_____. "Study Yields Landmarks." The Lincoln County News. September 19, 1985.

Historic Photographs of Seaba's Filling Station. Photographic Archives. Museum of Pioneer History, Chandler, Oklahoma.

Jakle, John A. "The American Gasoline Station, 1920-1970." Journal of American Culture 1 (Spring 1978): 520-542.

Liebs, Chester H. Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1985.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

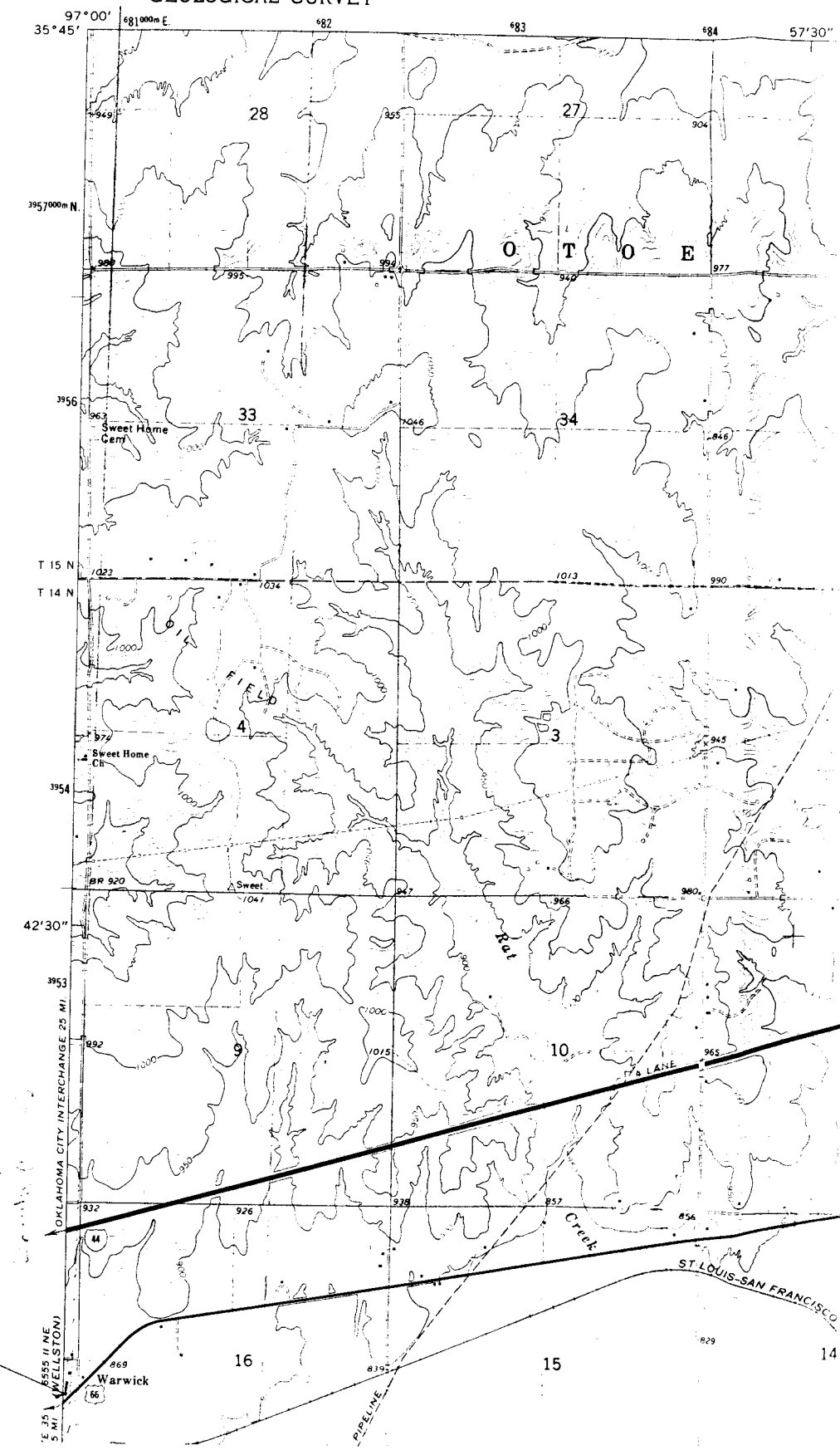
All Block 65, Original Town of Warwick, Oklahoma.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the property that historically has been associated with the resource.

Seaba’s Filling Station

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



SEABA'S FILLING STATION
14 481000 3950820